



300

People attended
free hikes, paddles,
and meditation events



4000

Youth reached through
Keeping Water Clean and
Floating Classroom programs

29

Critical fish passage and
coastal resilience projects furthered or finished.

\$107K

Private foundation
funds invested in local
municipalities to upgrade
local culverts

People who took part
in a successful campaign
to remove the
Ipswich Mills Dam

225

156

 Individuals volunteered
650 hours

Investing in our Communities

IRWA had a strong year both financially and programmatically in 2024, enabling us to financially support our communities as well. Over 50% of the grant funding that came through our coffers went right back out to be invested in our communities; grants that paid for on-the-ground restoration projects, intern stipends, and local educational programming. And that's just the start! Since 2022, IRWA has raised over \$8.5M in federal, state, and private foundation funding. As we complete these projects in the coming years, only 22% of that funding will be used to support IRWA's annual operating budget, with 78% invested in our communities.

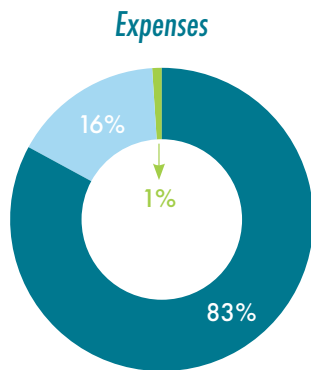
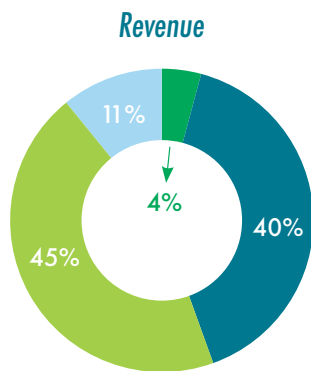
IRWA's spectacular success in securing multi-million dollar grants in recent years might give our members the mistaken impression that their contribution is no longer needed. Nothing could be further from the truth! **Charitable contributions from you — our members, donors, and corporate partners — comprise nearly 70% of our annual operating budget**, enabling IRWA to pull in these large state, private foundation, and federal grants.

Your donations get projects "shovel-ready" so they can be funded by large grants and support the community building and engagement work that is critical to building a healthy and sustainable watershed but is unlikely to receive government dollars. Your financial support gives IRWA the independence to pivot rapidly to changing priorities on the ground and the resilience to withstand public funding volatility.

The federal financial landscape in 2025 is uncertain at best. That's why **Creating Collective Action** is our best option to ensure that our critical watershed protection work continues.

2024 Financial Summary

Thanks to the generosity of our members and individual donors, the Ipswich River Watershed Association ended fiscal year 2024 in a strong position. A copy of our audited financial statement is available upon request.



Revenue	TOTAL
Member Dues.....	\$92,257
Contributions*.....	\$902,433
Grants & Contracts.....	\$971,807
Other Income.....	\$239,510
Total Revenue.....	\$2,206,007

Expenses	TOTAL
Program Services.....	\$1,460,613
Support Services.....	\$286,567
Depreciation.....	\$18,103
Total Expenses.....	\$1,765,283

Change in Current Assets \$440,774

Assets	TOTAL
Current Assets.....	\$1,850,034
Property and Equipment.....	\$1,338,561
Total Assets.....	\$3,188,595

Liabilities and Net Assets	TOTAL
Liabilities.....	\$26,665
Net Assets.....	\$3,161,930

*Event revenue is no longer tracked separately from other contributions.

The Ipswich River Watershed Association is the voice of the river. We work to make sure there is enough clean water for people, fish, and wildlife, now and for years to come. Together with scientists, the watershed community, and volunteers, we develop solutions to the river's problems and provide opportunities to connect with the river.

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- Erin Bonney Casey, *Executive Director*
- Zachary Calderón, *Advocacy Program Manager*
- Molly Courson, *Resiliency Program Director*
- Sarah Dawson, *Restoration Program Manager*
- Leah Feeney, *Graphic Designer*
- Emma Huguen, *Education Program Manager*
- Deborah Lindahl, *Operations Manager*
- Ryan O'Donnell, *Programs Manager*
- Neil Shea, *Restoration Program Director*
- Tracy Sopchak, *Director of Development & Engagement*
- Gail Sorenson, *Bookkeeper*
- Carla Villa, *Engagement Manager*

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- Diane Dixon
- Linda Fates
- Daniel Heiter
- Kim Honetschlager
- Richard Howard
- Deb Logan
- Donald Pearson
- Judy Schneider
- Michael Searles
- Ken Whittaker

2024 IRWA Board Annual Retreat



Below: (left to right) Peter Phippen, Linda Fates, Daniel Heiter, Judy Schneider, Chris Davis, Ken Whittaker, Kim Honetschlager, Ken MacNulty, Michael Searles, Lauren Fitzgerald, Chris Barenfeld, Brian Tinger, Julia Casto, Deb Logan, David Comb

Every friend of the River is special to us. Thank you.



Board Members Michael Searles and Julia Casto with volunteer Erica Orrpenian at our River Clean Up in November. Over 700 lbs of trash was collected on one sunny morning.

Every Donation Matters

Charitable contributions from members, donors, and corporate partners comprise nearly 70% of our annual operating budget with state, private foundation, and federal grants making up the difference. We are very grateful for every donation made to the River.

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This past campaign season IRWA staff met legislators at the Ipswich Mills Dam so they could learn more about the challenges facing the Ipswich River. Pictured here: Carla Villa, Erin Bonney Casey, Senator Ed Markey, Massachusetts Representative Kristin Kassner, Deb Lindhal, Neil Shea, Zach Calderón.

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Young scholars from Girls, Inc. in Lynn enjoy a summer day on the Ipswich River.



Above (left to right): Advocacy Program Manager Zach Calderón and Development and Engagement Director Tracy Sochak discuss river business over a pint. If you know Board Member Dan Heiter you know canoeing is definitely his superpower.

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Joe Holbeche is a Diadromous Fish Biologist with the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries. Here he is working to clear Alewife Brook, helping migrating fish reach their spawning grounds and complete their lifecycle.



THANK YOU for helping make our debut RiverFest such a great success!

400 people attended and...

- enjoyed live music performed by local youth from Alpha Omega
- learned to fish and kayak with help from Mass Wildlife and White Rose Canoe
- enjoyed slushies from INspire Cafe Slush Cart
- held live snakes from Cape Ann Vernal Ponds
- and much more!



Above: Participants from across the watershed came together at Ipswich River Park to enjoy live music, fishing, canoeing, and even snake handling!



Clockwise from left: Volunteers from the Invasives task force work at Riverbend; IRWA staff and volunteers picked up 700 lbs of trash at our River Cleanup day; Members discuss river business at our 2024 Annual Meeting.



Collective Action at Work

